BEHIND THE BENCH

by LARRY GABRIEL JR.

High school basketball mid-season analysis

The Lackawanna Boys and Girls Northern Division closed out first half play earlier this week. In the boys division, Old Forge (7-1) captured the title while at presstime, Bishop O'Hara (7-0) led Carbondale Area (6-1) and Riverside (6-1) with one game left in the girls action. **All records exclude Mondays and Tuesdays action.**

Although first half records are history as far as first half action is concerned, those records are important towards post season playoff qualifications.

Four of the six NEWS coverage teams are legitimate post season contenders.

In the boys "AA" race, there are 10 district teams including seven "AA" squads in the Lackawanna league. Those teams are Bishop O'Hara (5-2), Lakeland (3-3), Carbondale Area (2-5), Mid-Valley (2-5) and Riverside (0-7) and southern division teams Bishop Hannan (2-4) and Dunmore (0-7).

Four of those teams will qualify for the playoffs. The top two northern division teams and the top southern team with the best overall league record will be in the playoffs. Right now that would be O'Hara, Lakeland and Bishop Hannan. The remaining spot would be determined by the best overall league record among the ramaining schools.

The Wilkes-Barre area receives two "AA" spots for a total of six "AA" berths. Only the district champion will advance.

Per-season favorite, Carbondale Area has been involved in many close games. The Chargers have a three point win, two one point losses, a four point loss and a six point loss among their first half games.

A Chargers have not played up to their expected potential. The locals played "intense" basketball for the first 12 minutes vs. Old Forge and led 31-11 and 28-13. At this point, the Chargers appeared ready to turn around their season but Old Forge made a fabulous comeback for a 56-53 win.

This loss could cause a negative reaction for the team but the Chargers did show the potential to blow away any team. The team will have to play a more intense, hustling brand of ball in order to qualify for the playoffs.

Lakeland has also been involved in many close contests in the first half. The Chiefs, who may make a run for second half honors, appear to have a good shot at one of the three northern "AA" playoff spots.

In the "A" action, Sacred Heart (5-2) and Old Forge (7-1) are two of the three district "A" teams. Seton Catholic, which must win 75 percent of their games, appears out of the "A" race. The Roses and Blue Devils will meet for the district "A" title later in the season.

The Roses have been a mild surprise. With only one starter back from last year, the local parochial team has been a title contender all season. Seven or eight players have shared playing time for Sacred Heart.

In the girls "AA" competition, the Chargerettes (6-1) and Riverside (6-1) are strong playoff possibilities for the two Northern "AA" berths.

Carbondale Area will be a second half title contender as will Riverside, O'Hara and Valley View.

Bench Briefs... Old Forge boys coach, Al Semenza would have to be the area favorite for coach of the year if such as honor existed. Semenza had done a remarkable job with the Blue Devils the last few years. Old Forge has all players under 6'0" yet they won the first half title and should be a strong second half contender. In their 56-53 win over Carbondale Area, the Blue Devils trailed 31-11 midway through the second quarter but Semenza continued to stress the positive and told his players to believe in themselves. That game has to be a perfect example of giving 100 percent and never giving up .... **Mark Fallon**, who coaches Susquehanna's boys jayvees, has produced a 5-0 league record with mostly freshmen and a couple sophomores .... **Jerry** (Cincinnati Bengals) Boyarsky and his wife Erin Gates Boyarsky welcomed the arrival of a newborn boy (Zachary Robert) last week .... Sports enthusiast, **Ron Opeil** told me to watch the Raiders at the start of the playoffs.

PARKWAY RESTAURANT in the YMCA Sr. Men's league include: Kneeling (l-r) Harry Heck, Mike Heck, Standing (l-r) Frank Kubus, Jeff Condello, Terry Heck, Joe Cebusky and Tom Kubus. (NEWS Photo by Larry Gabriel Jr.)

SIMPSON in the YMCA Sr. Men's league include: (l-r) Jim Brothwell, Mike Lisowski, Ed Skorupa, Jerry Borosky and Bill Swartz. (NEWS Photo by Larry Gabriel Jr.)

Chargerettes and Roses highlighted

By LARRY GABRIEL JR.

The Chargerettes and Roses highlighted the week's basketball action. Carbondale Area lost a close game to Bishop O'Hara in a battle of unbeatens in girls competition while previously unbeaten Sacred Heart (5-2) lost two of three games, including a 39-32 contest to eventual first half champion, Old Forge (7-1).

Carbondale Area (6-1), which led for most of the game, was outscored 9-3 in the final 5:28 of the contest as Bishop O'Hara (7-0 18-0 overall) moved into undisputed possession of first place with a 27-35 Lackawanna Girls League, win over the Chargerettes.

O'Hara would clinch the first half title with a win over Riverside last Monday night.

The Chargerettes (15-3 overall) were ahead for all but three O'Hara leads during the close game but the final Lady Bruins' spurt provided the narrow victory margin for the Dunmore parochial squad.

In the first quarter, the Chargerettes' Kathy Wilk hit her first three field goal tries. With Wilk's hot hand, the locals managed two five point margins (9-4 and 11-6) and led 11-9 at the end of the quarter.

With 1:27 left in that first quarter, O'Hara started to play a hustling man to man defense and the strategy held the Chargerettes without a field goal until the 3:30 mark of the second quarter. ...During that stretch, O'Hara took the lead twice and produced their largest margin (16-13) with 2:45 left in the first half.

At this point, the Chargerettes reeled off eight straight points including a Bonnie Moore three point play, for a 21-16 lead.

The half ended with the Chargerettes ahead, 21-18.

Moore started the third quarter scoring for a C.A. 23-18 lead but O'Hara's Marie Rossi started to find the range with two successful jumpers. A Cathy Costanzo deuce with :11 left in the quarter tied the game at 26-26 but Michele Romanyshyn's basket with :06 left gave the Chargerettes a 28-26 third quarter lead.

Moore and Wilk gave Carbondale Area a 32-28 margin with 5:38 left in the game. Two scores by Ann Kelly and a Costanzo score gave O'Hara two point lead 34-32, with 2:29 left. Forty eight seconds later, Lisa Hornbeck converted one free throw to move the locals within one, **34-33**. Sheri Sharples scored with :28 on the clock for O'Hara but Delfino retaliated with a score 17 seconds later. Costanzo's one free throw conversion closed out O'Hara's scoring while a final second midcourt shot failed to beat the buzzer. Top scorers were Moore and Wilk with 12 points apiece.

Roses, 58
Bishop O'Hara, 37

Sacred Heart played one of its finest games of the season as the Roses stayed in first half title contention.

The Roses' Tony Nicolio scored the games first deuce. After the Nicolio score, the Roses dominated most of the game. A Jerry Fives score gave Sacred Heart a 12-6 margin. The first quarter ended at 12-10.

Sacred Heart continued to lead throughout the second quarter and outscored O'Hara 6-0 in the closing minute for a 26-18 Roses halftime lead.

The second half was all Roses and Rollie Hoyle, Fives and Fred Mendicino found the range. Top scorers were Fives, (14) and Hoyle, (12).

Local basketball scores listed

First half action in the Lackawanna League northern division ended earlier this week. Final highlights for first half action included:

Mid Valley, 62
Lady Chiefs, 34

The Lady Chiefs (1-6) were shutout 13-6 in the first quarter and trailed 26-10 at halftime. The highlight of this marathon was an incredible 91 free throws with Mid-Valley converting 36 of 58 attempts and Lakeland making 20 of 33. Lisa Stead led Lakeland with 14 points.

Valley View, 53
Lady Roses, 22

The Lady Cougars coasted to a 37-12 halftime lead for their fifth win in seven games. Sacred Heart fell to 0-7.

Old Forge, 38
Roses, 32

Sacred Heart lost its first game of the season in this seven point loss. The Roses led by one point after three quarters but were outscored 10-4 in the last period. Jerry Fives (16) led the Roses.

Valley View, 57
Chiefs, 36

Lakeland continued to be involved in close ballgames as the Cougars Rob Gilgallon hit both ends of a one and one situation with :09 left to knock off the Chiefs (2-3). Mike Dean (12), Brain Schweppenheiser (11) and Mike Matechak (10) topped the Chiefs.

Chiefs, 78
Mid-Valley, 70

Led by the scoring of Mike Dean, (22), Brian Schweppenheiser (22) and Mike Matechak (21), the Chiefs knocked off the Spartans. Lakeland led 37-21 at halftime but Mid-Valley closed to within four points late in the game.

Bishop O'Hara, 48
Chargers 42

The Bruins outscored the locals by four in the first quarter and held the margin for victory. Brian Petrosky (18) and Andy Behla (11) led the Chargers.

Valley View, 51
Roses, 43

The Cougars outscored the Roses during the first three quarters for the win. Jerry Fives (15) and Tony Nicolio (11) topped the Roses.

Smoke Rings

By Thotto

The World Wrestling Federation will present Professional Wrestling at Western Wayne High School on Saturday evening, February 18.

A sensational Tag Team match will headline the card Ivan "Polish Power" Putski and Italian Chief Jay Strongbow will battle the Wild Samoans, Afa and Seka.

In an exciting match-up the Arrogant and Pompous Paul Orndorf will take on rugged S.D. Jones.

Another Super Tag Team match will also be on this card when Four of the Best Midget Wrestlers in the World go at each other.

In addition — Invader No.1 will clash with Tough Charley Fulton.

Opening up the card will be the Wild Samoans No.1 facing the Invader No.2.

The card is being sponsored by the Waymart Volunteer Ambulance Corp.

Tickets are now on sale at – Waymart Cut Rate – Lake Ariel Dept. Store - Glinsky's Drug Store in Honesdale - Denim Designs in Hamlin or Ashman's Pharmacy in Carbondale - Western Wayne High School and Robert D. Wilson School.

Tickets are $6 for General Admission and $8 for Ringside Reserved....

For the second time in three years, Eddie Davis won more races than any other harness driver in North America. According to official statistics compiled by the U.S. Trotting Association, Davis finished 1983 with 469 victories, 40 more than his nearest rival, Walter Case, Jr.

Davis thus adds the 1983 crown to the one he earned in 1981, when he narrowly edged perennial dashwinner King Rose Filion 404-402. Case earned the dubious distinction of being a bridesmaid for the second straight year, as he finished just behind Filion in 1982.

Bill O'Donnell and Bill Gail joined Davis and Case in winning over 400 races last season – the first time that four harness drivers had won 400 races in a single season. 12-time champion Filion finished 18th, his lowest finish since 1965....

SH scholastic team posts win

Sacred Heart High School's Scholastic Team recently defeated both Old Forge and Lakeland in the quarter-finals of Scholastic Bowl, a high-school quiz show sponsored by WBQW. They are now one of three undefeated teams left in the competition. The finals will be played January 26 at Dunmore High School between Sacred, Honesdale and Dunmore.

Team members include Jim Franks, Charles Rathburn, Michelle Baigis and Jill Genevich. The group's moderator is Mrs. Nancy Osborne.

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CARBONDALE AREA BLITZ junior football "C" special award winners were, left to right, Jeff Ashby (defense), Joe Caporali and Pat Tierney (MVP's) and Eric Moneleski (offense). (NEWS Photo by Larry Gabriel Jr.)

RECIPIENTS OF THE 1983 JOHN J. CAPORALI MEMORIAL AWARD at the Carbondale Area Junior Sports Association banquet were, left to right: Dan Ashby ("A" team); Bob Durkin ("B" team); and Jim Miller ("C" team). The Caporali family presented the awards (back row left to right), Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Caporali (parents of the late John J. Caporali), and Mike and Frank Caporali. (NEWS Photo by Larry Gabriel Jr.)

JEFF ARTHUR, left, representing the "C" team coaches, presents a Joe Paterno autographed football to Mike Caporali Jr., who was the top raffle ticket salesman among the athletes. (NEWS Photo by Larry Gabriel Jr.)

CARBONDALE AREA BLITZ "B" FOOTBALL TEAM presented special awards to, left to right: Chris Leonard (lineman award), Jim Ashby (Little Big Man) and Eric Curcio (defense). Tom Tierney was absent for photo. (NEWS Photo by Larry Gabriel Jr.)

CARBONDALE AREA BLITZ "A" FOOTBALL TEAM special award winners for the '83 football season were, left to right: Chris Solomon (defense), Wayne Imbalzano (offense), Sean Rosler (MVP) and Wayne Soloman (offense lineman). (NEWS Photo by Larry Gabriel Jr.)

"On The Roses' Roster..."

When the Sacred Heart Roses opened the regular season on Wednesday, January 4, against the Mid-Valley Spartans, it marked the climactic point that twelve players, two coaches, and fifteen cheerleaders had been working toward since late September.

With Rollie Hoyle, a 6'4" senior center, as the only returning starter from last year's 21-7 squad, the Roses of this year seemed to be lacking leadership and experience. However, the Roses have great confidence in their playing personnel. Much of their confidence stems from the proven shooting, rebounding, and general all-around-playing ability of their three starring senior "big guys," Hoyle, and Sue forwards, Tony Nicolio, 6'3," and Jerry Fives, 6'4." The starting five are Chuck Rathburn, his rounded out by guards Tony Bullet 5'8," and Fred Mendicinio 5'10," with Tom Moran playing the important "sixth man" position.

The rest of the team is made up of senior newcomers: forward Bob Flood 6'2," and 6'1" center, Chris Nally. The juniors warming up the bench this year and waiting for next year are guards Kevin Franks, 5'9" and Pat Robinson, 5'7" forwards Ken Symonies 5'11," Frank DiBiasi, 6'1," and Kevin Price 6'2." The Roses are coached by George Werthmuller who is assisted by Al Augelli.

Players, coaches and cheerleaders aren't the only ones who put alot of hardwork in during the games - Sacred Heart has a group of dedicated managers who put much time into mastering their respective jobs. These overlooked and sometimes underrated individuals are statistician, Terry Coleman; CeCe McGovern, Erin Brady, and Sue Freno; manager, Debbie Baigis; cameraman, Chuck Rathburn, his assistant George Gallick, and honorary assistant Hollie Hoyle.

We would like to wish the best of luck to Coach Werthmuller, the team, and everybody who puts in hours of hard work to help make the team successful.

Medicare sign-up period now through March

People who failed to sign up for the medical insurance part of Medicare or who once had this protection but dropped it will have a chance to get this protection during the 1984 general enrollment period, January through March, Richard Olenchak, Social Security manager in Carbondale, said recently.

The medical insurance part of Medicare helps pay for doctor bills, outpatient hospital services, and many other medical items and services not covered under hospital insurance.

Protection for people through who sign up during the general enrollment period will start July 1, 1984.

Medical insurance is financed by premiums paid by those enrolled and the Federal general revenue. Currently the Federal Government pays about three-fourths of the cost.

People who sign up during a general enrollment period may pay a higher premium, Olenchak said. This is because the premium is increased by 10 per cent for each full year a person could have had this protection but did not.

More information about the medical insurance general enrollment period can be obtained at the Carbondale Social Security office, located at 15 South Main Street. The telephone number is 383-6900.

Just For The Record

By S. Robert Powell

NORTH CHURCH STREET. In the September 21 issue of the NEWS, Cy M. Grosvenor, Elmira, N.Y. recalled the businesses that were at one time located in the one-block section of North Church Street between the bridge over the Racket Brook and the intersection of North Church, Belmont and Canaan Streets. On September 22, **Carmine Cost**, Waymart, telephoned and offered the following information about that one-block of North Church Street: "The Saunders who had the barber shop was named Sylvester, and they called him "West" and not "Wes" as Cy Grosvenor says. His name was not Wesley but Sylvester. I started out at that corner myself, on the fifth of July, 1923, as an apprentice barber under West Saunders. I was there until 1913, when Flinn's place burned down. Amos Grippo was the shoemaker. Next to the Cemetery wall, there was a ramp, that led up to the store rooms on the second and third floors. The showroom was not on the second floor, as Cy says it was. The showroom was located in what was later the Russell Ice Cream Parlor. The store rooms were on the second and third floors. They had an elevator that worked by hand. George Maldfield had a plumbing store right next to where Avery's was-on the side towards the bridge. George Maldfield was the father and Walter was the son and they were in there together. Moon did have the blacksmith shop in there before Finn went in. I worked there when Fitzsimmons was there. I cut Cy's hair, and his father's and his uncle's. Saunders sold out in 1926 to Kenneth Lewis. I worked for Lewis until 1929, and we had a fire there. Ken decided that he was not going back into the barber business, and he went into the State Police. I took over the shop in 1929, and I was there until the place burned down in 1932 or 1933. Then they cleaned up the place and the only part of the building that was standing was Finn's showroom and that's where Russell's went in. I was 12 years old when I started to learn the trade of barbering."

On September 23, 1863, **Donald Hoyle, Sr.**, reported the following information on this same one-block section of North Church Street: "Maldfield had a plumbing shop next to Avery's. They moved from the front of the shop to the back. Grippo had a fire up by Saunders and then Grippo went into the front and Maldfield moved into the rear of the building. Maldfield resided upstairs."

JOHN MARSHALL SCHOOL. The John Marshall School (No. 8) was located at the northwest corner of Maple Avenue and Belmont Street. It was erected in 1892 at a total cost of $14,480.00, and was built by W.D. Stevens of Binghamton, who erected the three-story wing of Carbondale City Hall and Courthouse in 1892-1894. The school was opened for students on December 12, 1892, after having been formally inspected and accepted by the School Board on December 9, 1892. The John Marshall school was closed in June, 1974, after 82 years of service.

141st PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT. A great many young men from the Carbondale area served in the 141st Infantry Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, during the Civil War. This regiment was recruited from the rural districts of northeastern Pennsylvania. It was made up of a few professional men, farmers, mechanics, laborers, and youths who rushed to answer Lincoln's call for 300,000 volunteers in July 1862. Company G was formed in early August, 1862, when James Mumford, a law student, began recruiting at Honesdale. In Hawley, Joseph L. Atkinson, a businessman, started to recruit another company. It was later decided to combine both towns into one company. On August 25, 1862, James Mumford was elected captain; Joseph L. Atkinson, first lieutenant; William Muir, first sergeant; William T. Lobb, second sergeant. The company joined the regiment then being formed in Harrisburg. Henry J. Madill, a Towanda lawyer, was named colonel and commanding officer of the 141st. The regiment proceeded by train to Washington on August 26, 1862, stopping at Baltimore. The 141st first saw action at Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862. Captain Mumford was killed at Chancelorsville and Lieutenant Atkinson, although wounded, assumed command of the company in December, 1863, and remained in charge until February, 1865, when he resigned his commission because of wounds. William Lobb was commissioned captain on February 18, 1865, and remained in command until the company was mustered out of service on May 28, 1865.

Like a letter from home....

Each week the Carbondale NEWS carries an up-to-date account of what's going on in and around Carbondale.

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CARBONDALE NEWS 282-3300

Post office seeks help on snow, ice removal

Carbondale officer-in-charge, Joseph Zapotok is seeking the help and cooperation of postal customers in his delivery area concerning snow and icy weather conditions.

The recent snowstorm has greatly hindered the letter carrier's ability to efficiently deliver your mail. The weather conditions have also placed the letter carrier in jeopardy of increased vehicle accidents, slips on walking surfaces and subsequent falls causing injury. Officer-in-charge, Zapotok has requested that all residents clear their sidewalks, as soon as possible, to prevent late mail delivery, temporary suspension of delivery service and/or possible third party claims for injury. Curbline boxes should also be sufficiently cleared to allow the letter carrier to serve the box without dismounting from his/her vehicle.

Officer-in-charge Zapotok said, "customer cooperation regarding this matter will be truly appreciated and will allow the Postal Service to provide the best possible service to all customers in a safe and efficient manner."

Armed Forces News

Gary Benasutti

Navy Seaman Recruit Gary A. Benasutti, son of Raymond and Marilyn Benasutti of 1023 N. Main St., Forest City, has completed recruit training at the Naval Recruit Training Command San Diego.

During the eight-week training cycle, trainees studied general military subjects designed to prepare them for further academic and on-the-job training in one of the Navy's 85 basic occupational fields.

Included in their studies were seamanship, close order drill, Naval history and first aid.

Joseph Brozina

Airman Joseph J. Brozina III, son of Joseph J. and Ann M. Brozina Jr., of 86 Lower Powderly St., has graduated from the U.S. Air Force diet therapy course at Lowry Air Force Base, Colo.

During the course, students were taught to plan and supervise preparation of normal and modified diets for people undergoing medical treatment. They also earned credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Brozina is scheduled to serve at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

He received an associate degree in 1981 from Pennsylvania State University, Dunmore.

your marketplace the WANT ADS

Happy birthday

Happy birthday on January 29 to Robert Evancho, from Mom and family.

Happy birthday

Happy birthday to Elaine Yakubik, St. Petersburg, Florida. From Mom, Dad and sister Diane Reese.

Miss Kathryn Shust, Jermyn, named to college dean's list

Kathryn Shust of Jermyn, was named to the Dean's List of College Misericordia, Dallas, PA for the fall semester. The announcement was made by Dr. James J. Pallante, Academic Dean.

To receive Dean's List recognition students must earn a 3.55 (on a 4.0 scale) or higher grade point average.

Shust is a freshman occupational therapy major at College Misericordia. She is the daughter of Stephen and Lilian Shust.

Happy birthday

Happy birthday to Eva Tini, Prairie Village, Kansas, on January 28, from parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Cleme, Simpson, and brother, John, West Chester.

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